

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEXT UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE, ROB PORTMAN

HON. J. DENNIS HASTERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2005

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate my good friend from Ohio, Rep. ROB PORTMAN. As you all know, ROB is likely to be confirmed by the Senate to be the next United States Trade Representative. His confirmation means that American companies and their products have a tireless advocate in the global marketplace.

While we all wish ROB the best, it's a sad day for the House of Representatives and the Republican Leadership team.

ROB PORTMAN is a true "people's legislator." From the moment he was elected from Ohio's Second Congressional District 12 years ago, ROB has worked tirelessly for the people of Ohio. He is a member of the Ways and Means Committee and serves as Vice-Chairman of the Budget Committee. His congressional work has done much to benefit the American people.

ROB authored or coauthored more than a dozen bills that passed both Houses and eventually became law. His accomplishments include improving our nation's pension laws, eliminating capital gains taxes on the sale of most homes, restructuring the IRS with significant new taxpayer rights, and in an area that is close to my heart, ROB helped enact legislation that supports community anti-drug efforts. Most recently, he assisted in drafting landmark legislation to create what we now know as the Department of Homeland Security, one of the largest and most significant reorganizations of the Federal government in our nation's history.

Since January 2001, ROB has served as the Chairman of the Elected Leadership for House Republicans. He has been an outstanding and invaluable member of our team in the House.

The list of ROB PORTMAN's contributions to the House of Representatives and the American people could go on and on. The Nation is fortunate to have had his service in the House of Representatives.

I am especially privileged to have had ROB PORTMAN's friendship as well. His character and integrity are unquestionable. His dedication to our country and his constituents is surpassed only by his devotion to his wife Jane and their three children.

It is my pleasure to congratulate the next United States Trade Representative, ROB PORTMAN. I wish him the very best.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF MR. JAMES PATRICK NEWMAN AND ELIZABETH A. WADDEN IN CELEBRATION OF THEIR 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY: MAY 7, 2005

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Jim and Betty Newman, as they celebrate fifty years of devotion to each other, to their family, extended family and many close friends. This unbreakable union represents a deep and abiding love, not only for each other, but also for their children, grandchildren and for their community.

Jim Newman and Betty Wadden were both born and raised on Cleveland's Westside. They were married at St. Colman's Catholic Church on May 7, 1955. They moved a few miles west to Lakewood, where together they raised six children: Barbara, Timothy, Dennis, William, Daniel and James. They remain a loving, guiding force in the lives of their children, and also in the lives of their eighteen grandchildren, all of whom remain in the Cleveland area. Jim and Betty instilled a strong sense of kindness, humor and integrity into the hearts and minds of their children. They taught by example, interspersed by Jim's quick wit and Betty's caring nature, offering lessons that reflected their own lives—lives framed by hard work, patience, laughter and enduring strength during difficult moments. Besides commitment to family and community, both Jim and Betty share concern for our country and our world. Jim is a United States Veteran, having honorably served in the United States Army during the Korean War.

Jim and Betty were able to effectively balance the demands of family, work and community, with family as the main focus. Jim is now retired from CEI, following more than thirty years of service. Betty is also retired after working for many years as a member of the Baker's Union with Fisher-Fazio and Rini-Rego's. Today, they remain active within the lives of their family, parish and community. When winter finally breaks, Jim and Betty spend peaceful summer days along the shores of Lake Erie, where they gather with family and friends at their Marblehead cottage.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Jim and Betty Newman, as we join them in celebration of this joyous occasion—their 50th wedding anniversary. Jim and Betty continue to inspire those around them to live life with love, caring and humor, to give back to the community, and to hold family closest to their hearts.

IN SUPPORT OF HARLEY-DAVIDSON INC.

HON. PAUL RYAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2005

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation on behalf of Harley-Davidson Inc., the only major U.S.-based motorcycle manufacturer and the world's leading seller of large displacement motorcycles. Harley-Davidson was founded in Milwaukee, Wisconsin in 1903, and has become a significant part of the social, economic, and cultural heritage of the United States. Over the years, Harley has provided thousands of jobs to the people of Wisconsin, with 4,000 Harley employees working in the state today. In addition, Buell Motorcycle Company, a subsidiary of Harley-Davidson, Inc., employs another 200 workers in East Troy, Wisconsin.

We must help manufacturers like Harley-Davidson remain competitive in the global marketplace so that good, high-paying manufacturing jobs are retained in Wisconsin and throughout the United States. Although our nation has seen strong economic growth over the past two years, our manufacturing sector has not fully recovered all of the jobs that it lost as a result of the 2001 recession. In fact, the State of Wisconsin is still down 77,200 net manufacturing jobs since January 2001. The most effective way to address this problem is to bring down the costs of domestic manufacturing so that all companies like Harley are more competitive, more profitable, and can employ more hard-working Americans.

The machines included in this legislation are a vital part of Harley's manufacturing process, but they are not produced domestically. Thus, Harley is forced to pay a 4.4% tariff rate on the equipment they require to manufacture their products in the United States. This bill, which temporarily eliminates the tariff, will bring down Harley's production costs, improve their international competitiveness, and help them keep high-paying manufacturing jobs at home.

I look forward to working with my colleagues in Congress to pass this legislation.

DEEPEST SYMPATHY FOR THE FAMILIES OF LILIBETH GOMEZ AND HARRISON OROSCO

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2005

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my deep sorrow and heartfelt sympathy for the families of Lilibeth Gomez and Harrison Orosco, two beautiful children who lost their lives last week in a school bus accident in Arlington County, Virginia. As a parent, I understand that losing a child produces immeasurable grief that words cannot

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

adequately express. I can only hope that during this difficult time these families and the communities that embrace them will find strength and joy in fond memories of Lilibeth and Harrison.

In newspapers and on television we have been witness to the images of scared parents, forlorn classmates, and the devastation a single accident can cause. These scenes are heartbreaking for everyone. What hasn't been widely exposed, but serves as an equally powerful statement, is the effort of the community to support the Gomez and Orosco families in their time of need. Parents, teachers, students, local officials and other residents in Arlington County and Northern Virginia have demonstrated their love and goodwill by offering sympathy letters and cards, a needed friend for survivors, and thoughtful financial support. The collective strength and love of this community, many of whom didn't know any of the families affected but still wanted to help, serves as a beacon for those struggling with the loss. I have never been more proud to represent this wonderfully caring and diverse community.

Throughout this tragedy, the Parents and Teachers Association of Boston-Hoffman Elementary School has been centrally involved. Providing an outlet for the community to share in their collective grief and express their support, Boston-Hoffman PTA has established a donation fund, extra counseling for students, and a place to send flowers, cards and letters that respects these families' wishes to grieve privately. I greatly admire their noble actions and commend the Boston-Hoffman PTA for filling a needed void during such challenging circumstances.

Mr. Speaker, I hope you will join me in expressing this body's condolences to these families who may never fully recuperate following the losses of Lilibeth and Harrison. In the midst of this tragedy though, we have experienced the Arlington community at its most caring best. This effort, along with the shared memories of these two children, will never be forgotten.

RESPONSIBILITY EVADED

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2005

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, it is deeply discouraging that no high-ranking military or civilian defense officials are being held accountable for the terrible abuses of basic human rights that occurred at the prison in Abu Ghraib. The editorial from the Washington Post, which I hereby insert into the RECORD, makes the point very well. The failure of the Bush Administration to hold any high-ranking official in any way accountable for this grave lapse is in itself a deeply regrettable example of dereliction of duty.

[From the washingtonpost.com, Apr. 23, 2005]

TOP OFFICERS IN ABU GHRAIB CASE CLEARED

(By Robert Burns)

WASHINGTON.—Lt. Gen. Ricardo Sanchez, faulted by some for leadership failures in the Abu Ghraib prisoner abuse scandal, has been cleared by the Army of all allegations of wrongdoing and will not be punished, officials said.

Three officers who were among Sanchez's top deputies during the period of the prisoner abuse in the fall of 2003 also have been cleared. An Army Reserve one-star general has been reprimanded, and the outcome of seven other senior Army officer cases could not be learned Friday.

Sanchez, who became the senior U.S. commander in Iraq in June 2003, two months after the fall of Baghdad, has not been accused of criminal violations. It is unclear, however, whether the controversy surrounding his role in Iraq will stand in the way of his earning a fourth star. He is nearing the end of his tenure as commander of the Army's 5th Corps, based in Germany.

After assessing the allegations against Sanchez and taking sworn statements from 37 people, the Army's inspector general, Lt. Gen. Stanley E. Green, concluded that the allegations were unsubstantiated, according to officials familiar with the details of Green's probe.

Green reached the same conclusion in the cases of two generals and a colonel who worked on Sanchez's staff.

The officials who disclosed the findings spoke only on condition of anonymity because the results on Sanchez and 11 other officers who were the subject of Green's scrutiny have not yet been publicly released and Congress has not been fully briefed.

The question of accountability among senior Army and Defense Department officials who were in positions of responsibility on Iraq detention and interrogation policy has been hotly debated in Congress. Some Democrats accuse the Pentagon of foisting all the blame onto low-ranking soldiers.

In a statement issued Friday that did not mention Sanchez or other specific cases, Sen. John Warner, chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, said that as soon as all Pentagon assessments of accountability are complete he will hold a committee hearing "to examine the adequacy of those reviews" and to hear senior civilian and military officials address the issue.

Warner, R-Va., said he strongly agrees with one investigation report that concluded last year that commanders should be held accountable for their action or inaction and that military as well as civilian leaders in the Pentagon "share this burden of responsibility."

The office of Michigan Sen. Carl Levin, the ranking Democrat on the Senate Armed Services Committee, declined to comment on the matter.

Asked about public expectations of punishment for senior officers associated with Abu Ghraib, the Army's chief public affairs officer, Brig. Gen. Vincent Brooks, said the Army went to great lengths to make its investigations thorough and fair.

In addition to clearing Sanchez, the Army inspector general has determined that there should be no punishment given to Sanchez's former top deputy, Maj. Gen. Walter Wojdakowski; to Maj. Gen. Barbara Fast, who was Sanchez's intelligence chief in Baghdad; or to Col. Mark Warren, Sanchez's top legal adviser at the time.

In an interview Friday, three senior defense officials associated with the Green investigations cited mitigating circumstances in the Sanchez case, including the fact that his organization in Iraq, known as Combined Joint Task Force 7, initially was short of the senior officers it required. They also cited the upsurge in insurgent violence shortly after Sanchez took command and the intense pressure the military faced in hunting down Saddam Hussein.

The three officials spoke on condition of anonymity.

A separate investigation by a panel headed for former Defense Secretary James Schles-

inger concluded that Sanchez should have taken stronger action in November 2003 when he realized the extent of problems among the military intelligence and military police units running Abu Ghraib.

A subsequent Army investigation, made public last summer in what was called the Kern-Fay-Jones report, concluded that although Sanchez and his most senior deputies were not directly involved in the bases at Abu Ghraib, their "action and inaction did indirectly contribute" to some abuses.

Sanchez and Wojdakowski were cited in the Kern-Fay-Jones report for failure to "ensure proper staff oversight of detention and interrogation operations" in Iraq, specifically at the Abu Ghraib prison where Iraqi detainees were physically abused and sexually humiliated by military police and intelligence soldiers in fall 2003.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF OTTILIE MARKHOLT

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Ottilie Markholt, loving mother, grandmother, author, dedicated union advocate, community activist, and dear friend to many. Her passing marks a great loss for her family and friends, and also for every member of our American workforce. It was Ms. Markholt's focus, drive and vision, directed at improving and securing worker's rights that brought the plight of the American worker and the labor movement into the light of day.

Ms. Markholt was born and raised in the great northwest, an only child of modest beginnings. As a young child, her family moved from the wild frontier of Alaska to Seattle, Washington. Ms. Markholt, exceptionally intelligent and well-read, rejected the socially conservative ideology present in higher education at the time, opting to quit college and focus on changing the world for the better—especially for the working class. Armed with a passion for social justice, an agile mind, a gift for writing and an unwavering commitment to the cause, Ms. Markholt set off on a lifetime journey of advocating for the struggling working class of America.

Ms. Markholt was no stranger to struggle herself. As a single mother of two young boys, Ms. Markholt survived on meager office wages by becoming an expert gardener and seamstress. She kept her boys well-fed and well-clothed by baking homemade bread, canning fruits and vegetables, making her own butter and cottage cheese, and making their own clothes. Despite adversity, she remained emotionally and physically strong, and her energy and focus served to propel the labor movement forward. From writing critically acclaimed books and articles, to knocking on doors and soliciting membership, to organizing strikes, Ms. Markholt's energy and commitment helped set the labor movement ablaze in the Pacific Northwest.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and remembrance of the remarkable and exceptional life of Ottilie Markholt. The infinite measure of her heart, combined with her courage, vision and integrity, defined her life and served to lift the lives of countless individuals and families throughout our community,

especially those who serve as the foundation of our nation—the American laborer. Her kindness, energy, compassion and unwavering focus on making our world a better place—one union member at a time, will be remembered always. I extend my deepest condolences to her friends and family members, and especially to her sons, Bob and Lee; her grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchild.

Ottile Markholt lived her life with joy, energy and in complete harmony with her principals and values. Her eternal faith in humanity and in the notion that together, we can make a positive difference, will continue to serve as an unending force of hope and possibility for every member of America's labor force, and her memory and legacy will forever live on within the hearts of all who knew and loved her well.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PAUL RYAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2005

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, I was unavoidably delayed and missed rollcall vote No. 140. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay".

NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2005

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to take this opportunity today to honor all those who own and work for small businesses as part of National Small Business Week. These men and women should be recognized for their spirit of entrepreneurship, determination, persistence, and contribution to our economic prosperity.

Small businesses represent 95 percent of all employers, create half of our economic growth, and create three out of four new jobs throughout the nation. As leaders in innovation and new technology, they produce up to fourteen more patents per employee than large corporations. Nearly half of these small businesses are owned by women entrepreneurs.

Owners of small businesses are risk takers who aren't afraid to take an idea they have and make it a reality. Because of their positive impact on our country, we should not make the risks they take any more difficult. The Bush Administration and Congress should cultivate small businesses by advancing policies that enable small businesses to start and flourish, not placing impediments that stunt their growth.

Under President Bush's budget, small business assistance programs are some of the hardest hit with cuts. Reductions to these assistance programs are much greater than the program cuts elsewhere in the budget he submitted to Congress. Half of all government small business assistance programs are for elimination or for severe cuts, with the average cut at nearly 80 percent. Among the pro-

grams cut or eliminated are the Community Development Financial Institutions which helps small businesses in underprivileged communities receive capital, the Microloan program which provides loans to people who would not normally be eligible to receive one; the Minority Business Development Agency which focuses only on the establishment and growth of minority owned businesses; and the Women's Business Centers which help aspiring female entrepreneurs.

These cuts are unacceptable, and I am hopeful that through the appropriations process we can restore the funding to these programs. The government should not be in the business of making it more difficult to receive start-up capital. We should also be encouraging minorities and women to begin businesses, especially in communities in need of thriving companies, not cutting the programs that make it easier to succeed.

Small business owners are the backbone of our economy. They deserve the respect and assistance of the federal government. Instead, they have seen the government cut the programs that help them become successes. I am looking forward to the day when the government is there to help every person who has ever dreamt of owning their own business and seeing those stores, restaurants and companies thrive.

CITIZENS FOR CITIZENS HEAD START PROGRAM WINS AWARD

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2005

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, nothing that we do is more important than trying to provide a fair start in life for young people born into difficult economic circumstances. The Head Start and Early Head Start programs are therefore among the most valued that we have. I was pleased but not surprised to be informed that the version of these programs run by the Fall River Community Action Group, Citizens For Citizens, received the Excellence Award from the Department of Health and Human Services. Citizens For Citizens is an extraordinarily creative organization, run by dedicated people with a deep commitment to helping others. This recognition of the Head Start program is just an example of the generally excellent work that Citizens For Citizens does, and on the occasion of this, I want to congratulate Director Neil Lynch and all of those who work with him in this important endeavor.

Mr. Speaker, the Fall River Herald News last month ran an article about this program and the good work that it does. It is important for people to see examples of successful federal programs, and I therefore ask that this article from the Fall River Herald News be printed here.

[From the Herald News, Mar. 24, 2005]

CFC HEAD START PROGRAM RECEIVES PROGRAM OF EXCELLENCE AWARD

FALL RIVER.—Citizens for Citizens' Head Start and Early Head Start program has once again received the U.S. Department of Health's Program of Excellence Award following an extensive study of all aspects of the operation by a team of 12 federal reviewers.

Neil Lynch, CFC Head Start director, said that only two other programs in Massachusetts received the Program of Excellence Award. The award was presented at a regional conference in Nashua, N.H.

The reviews are conducted every three years and the highest rating is a repeat of the study results in 2001. The federal reviewers determined that CFC Head Start meets and surpasses every federal performance standard.

"The team from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services closely scrutinized us in how effectively we were performing in the areas of education, quality health and nutrition, disabilities, social services, transportation and parent involvement," said Lynch.

He noted that the federal reviewers also met with community partners, including the public schools, social service agencies, parents, policy council members and the CFC board.

"I am very proud of our staff for receiving the Program of Excellence Award for the second consecutive time," said Lynch.

"The staff and the parents of Head Start children devote a great deal of effort into the programs we provide in order to ensure the highest quality of early childhood education possible," he added.

CFC operates 21 Head Start classes in Greater Fall River and an Early Head Start and home-based program on Second Street.

The federal reviewers determined CFC Head Start and Early Head Start accomplished the following:

—All curricula in place are based upon sound child development principles and presented in creative learning methods.

—Parents are actively involved in curriculum planning through a policy council, which is informed of current decisions affecting service delivery, program policies and procedures.

—Successful family partnership built.

—Rapport between staff and parents created trust and helped identify individual needs.

—Collaboration is excellent between area health and dental providers, schools, colleges and pediatric specialists.

—General layout of classrooms are safe, comfortable and fully accessible.

Mark A. Sullivan Jr., executive director of CFC, said Head Start is a valuable learning resource for children and that since its inception it has successfully prepared millions of children to enter school on a level playing field.

"I am very proud of the administrators of CFC's Head Start, the staff and especially the parents who are closely involved with the program to ensure their children get a quality learning experience," said Sullivan.

IN HONOR OF THE VIETNAMESE COMMUNITY OF CLEVELAND AND THE THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FALL OF SAIGON

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance and recognition of the 30th Anniversary of the Fall of Saigon. This historical date commemorates the end of the Vietnam War, and represents the beginning of a new life for tens of thousands of Vietnamese people, as they began their hopeful journey to America.

On April 30, 1975, the ancient city of Saigon fell to the conquest of communist troops. This action solidified the communist takeover of South Vietnam. Three decades later, I rise to honor the memory and sacrifice of the hundreds of thousands of South Vietnamese soldiers, American soldiers and civilians who made the ultimate sacrifice in the name of liberty and democracy.

Despite the takeover, the culture, spirit and hope reflected by the Vietnamese people remained steadfast. After the communist takeover of Saigon, thousands of Vietnamese, determined to rebuild their lives, began their treacherous exodus out of Vietnam. Their daring escape was on foot, through thick jungles and over jagged mountains. They escaped by boat, through snake-infested rivers and across turbulent seas. They became refugees in many nations, including America, with nothing more than the clothes on their back and the hope for freedom in their hearts.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me to honor and remember the hundreds of thousands of men and women who sacrificed their lives in the name of freedom. Today, we also honor agencies and churches such as The Vietnamese Community of Greater Cleveland and St. Helena Catholic Church, that continue to offer a haven of support, services and hope to immigrants from all over the world. The Vietnamese culture, through the care and commitment of its people, has flourished in America, yet remains forever connected to its ancient cultural and historical traditions that spiral back throughout the centuries, connecting the old world to the new, spanning oceans and borders—from Vietnam to America.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN W. OLVER

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2005

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, for rollcall vote No. 141 on the Scott of Virginia amendment to H.R. 748, had I been present, I would have voted in the affirmative.

HONORING JAMES BERRY, PRESIDENT OF LOCKHEED MARTIN MISSILES AND FIRE CONTROL

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2005

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, in accordance with the celebration of Small Business Week, I would like to recognize Mr. James Berry, President of Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control, in Grand Prairie, Texas, for receiving the Dwight D. Eisenhower Award for Excellence. This award was given by the Small Business Administration. It honors large contractors that have excelled in utilizing small businesses as suppliers and subcontractors. Mr. Berry and the entire company deserve this high merit for their support of small businesses.

Small businesses are the backbone of the American economy. They are vital to innovation and major job providers for American

workers. In 2003, 99.7 percent of all businesses in the United States were small firms.

Congratulations to Mr. Berry and the Lockheed Martin team in Grand Prairie for receiving this high distinction. I thank them for recognizing the importance of small businesses, and establishing an outstanding small business subcontracting program. I wish Mr. Berry and Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control continued success.

IN CELEBRATION OF NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2005

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, small businesses represent more than 99 percent of all businesses in America and 85 percent of jobs created in the Second District of South Carolina.

As we celebrate National Small Business Week, I'm proud to congratulate Mr. Bill Head of Hilton Head Island on receiving the "2005 S.C. Small Business Person of the Year" award. Bill and his wife Vicky opened an auto center 10 years ago with only \$7,000, with tools, and a dream of owning a business. Today, they employ 14 people and their business is worth over \$2 million. Bill's vision and hard work made him one of the millions of small business owners who support our country's economy.

The 109th Congress is already helping small business owners like Bill by acting to permanently repeal the death tax, allow small businesses to band together to purchase health insurance, and protect small businesses against junk lawsuits. As a former small business owner, I am dedicated to making sure that small business owners have the tools they need to grow their businesses and create new jobs.

In conclusion, God bless our troops and we will never forget September 11th.

RECOGNIZING FOUR SAMARITANS

HON. JOHN E. PETERSON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2005

Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor four Samaritans that put their lives at risk to save a young man who was badly electrocuted after a car accident in rural Forest County, Pennsylvania, on February 12th of this year.

On that snowy Saturday, Eric Wallace was driving on Blue Jay Road through the Allegheny National Forest, when he lost control of his pickup truck. The vehicle crossed the roadway and rolled over an embankment, landing on the driver's side. Mr. Wallace climbed out of his vehicle, but came into contact with live power lines buried in the snow. Mr. Wallace went down 50 feet from his wrecked truck, his face in the snow and a hand and foot aflame from the current passing through his body.

Thankfully for Mr. Wallace, four men happened to be on this rural two-lane road on that winter Saturday. One man, Ron Weisenstein

of nearby Sheffield was the first to happen by the accident scene, which he saw from his vehicle. Mr. Weisenstein pulled his vehicle over and ran to the injured passenger. Seeing the power lines across Mr. Wallace's body, Mr. Weisenstein instinctually pulled the victim away from the lines, only to receive powerful shock himself.

Michael Brunner was working at his parent's house down the road from the accident when he heard the crash. After having his parents call 911, Mr. Brunner ran down the road to join Mr. Weisenstein. Shortly thereafter, Brian Marshall came upon the accident. Appraising the situation, Mr. Marshall told the two others that he had a rope in his vehicle. Mr. Weisenstein took the rope and wrapped it around Mr. Wallace's left foot, finally pulling him off the downed power lines.

The three men found Mr. Wallace to be without a heartbeat and not breathing. Mr. Brunner remembered the CPR training he had received as a Boy Scout in his youth and with the assistance of Mr. Weisenstein was able to get the injured man breathing again. Soon after Mr. Wallace started to breath on his own, Paul Hebert came across the accident. Mr. Hebert, an Emergency Medical Technician visiting the area from Manassas, Virginia, cleared Mr. Wallace's airways and helped stabilize the man until personnel from the Sheffield Volunteer Fire Department arrived. Mr. Wallace was taken by helicopter to the Intensive Care Burn Unit at Mercy Hospital in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and is now on the road to recovery.

Mr. Speaker, without the assistance of these four gentlemen who happened to be on this quiet road through the forest on a winter's day, Eric Wallace would have likely died either from electrocution or exposure to the cold. We should all applaud their quick thinking, teamwork, and selflessness to help a fellow man, and I am honored to have the opportunity to highlight their actions.

RECOGNITION OF AMSA ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 35TH ANNIVERSARY AND NAME CHANGE

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2005

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I wish to take this opportunity to congratulate the Association of Metropolitan Sewerage Agencies (AMSA) on the occasion of its 35th Anniversary and on its name change to the National Association of Clean Water Agencies, or NACWA. Its 35 year record of advocacy and leadership in meeting the goals of the Clean Water Act has helped guarantee the chemical, biological, and physical health of our Nation's rivers, lakes, streams, bays, and coasts.

NACWA's members serve the majority of the sewered population in our Country and treat and reclaim over 18 billion gallons of wastewater a day. Simply stated, NACWA and its members deserve to be celebrated for their ongoing role in the remarkable revitalization of America's waterways.

Despite the improvements made so far to our Nation's waters, NACWA understands that significant work remains to be done to achieve the goals of the Clean Water Act. From the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee's

close working relationship with the Association, we know NACWA is well-positioned to continue building on our Nation's water quality gains.

The Transportation and Infrastructure Committee has looked to AMSA and will continue to look to NACWA as a valued informational resource and advocate on behalf of sound water quality policy. The Association has always been willing to share its expertise and to provide leadership in challenging times. For example, in the wake of the attacks of September 11, 2001, the Association responded immediately with creative ideas and vital leadership in developing tools and resources to help further secure our Nation's critical water infrastructure. The Association has been a vital resource on a host of clean water issues from wet weather control, nonpoint source pollution prevention, and the critical need for a sustainable, Federal-State-local partnership to meet our Nation's clean water challenges.

I have worked closely with the Association and know that NACWA will build on its tradition as a trusted resource for Congress and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. I also am confident that NACWA will meet its strategic objectives and the goals of AMSA's original founders. Most importantly, NACWA's success is a direct result of its broad membership. NACWA (then AMSA) was established in 1970 by representatives of 22 municipal wastewater treatment agencies. Since then, AMSA has grown into an organization of nearly 300 municipal agency members and a total membership of nearly 400 organizations poised to ensure that the 21st Century will enjoy continued water quality improvement.

The Association's public agency members not only represent what is best about public service; they exemplify what it means to be environmental practitioners. Their daily work enables us to enjoy our Nation's rivers, lakes, streams, bays, and coasts—something we, as a Nation, must never take for granted.

Once again, I congratulate NACWA on this important milestone as an organization and applaud its members for their outstanding service.

HONORING JAMES MONROE

HON. JO ANN DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2005

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on the birthday of an incredible American Statesman, and native of Virginia's First District, that I have the privilege to represent in Congress.

Serving during the "Era of Good Feelings," and as the last of the Virginia Dynasty of Presidents, James Monroe was a man devoted to Virginia, and to his grateful Nation. Born in Westmoreland County, a graduate of the College of William and Mary, and a long-time resident of Fredericksburg, James Monroe was truly a son of America's First District.

During Monroe's Presidency, our young Nation underwent many important changes. Under his leadership, the United States purchased Florida, and his Presidency saw the decline of European colonial influence in the New World.

Perhaps fitting for an early American patriot, James Monroe passed away on Independence

Day, 1831. He will forever be remembered in the hearts and minds of all Americans, but his ties to Virginia will always leave him to be fondly remembered in the Commonwealth.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO AMEND THE HARMONIZED TARIFF SCHEDULE OF THE UNITED STATES TO CLARIFY THE ARTICLE DESCRIPTION RE- LATING TO CERTAIN MONO- CHROME GLASS ENVELOPES

HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2005

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer legislation that would amend the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States and clarify the article description relating to certain monochrome glass envelopes. These components are incorporated into monochrome cathode ray tubes used in computer monitors, terminals, medical imaging monitors, and avionic displays. A company in the 16th Congressional District of Illinois, which I am proud to represent, manufactures these monochrome cathode ray tubes.

There are no remaining manufacturers of monochrome glass envelopes in the United States; and therefore, no rationale of retaining the current 5.2 percent duty on these components. The small manufacturer who needs this component in their final product is unnecessarily harmed by the import duty. U.S. manufacturers are struggling to survive, and we must end policies that make it more difficult for our manufacturers to compete and succeed in the international market.

Once again, I anticipate no adverse impact on any domestic producer or industry should this legislation be enacted. I know the permanent removal of this duty would be beneficial to some good, hard working people in Loves Park, Illinois. I urge my colleagues to support inclusion of this legislation into the Miscellaneous Tariff Correction bill to be moved later this year.

TRIBUTE TO JACKSON STREET SCHOOL

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2005

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great joy to extend my congratulations to the second grade "Peace Class" at the Jackson Street School in Northampton, Massachusetts. This class is the recipient of the League of Women Voters Award in conjunction with the National Student/Parent Mock Election. The award is presented to schools and organizations that contribute to increasing parent and community participation in the Mock Election and/or in the actual election process.

During the recent elections, the class organized a voter registration drive and registered about thirty-six new voters. On the eve of Election Day, the students held a candlelight vigil at City Hall encouraging people to vote by

singing and holding handmade signs reading "Vote For Me Until I Can" and "Voting Is Your Right."

As a former educator, I am pleased to learn of young people going above and beyond the call to enhance their civic duties. I am honored to represent such outstanding individuals and I join with the citizens of the Second Congressional District in offering a most heartfelt congratulation to the second grade "Peace Class" at the Jackson Street School for being the recipient of this prestigious award.

INTRODUCTION OF TORTURE VICTIMS RELIEF ACT

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2005

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, in 1998, Congress first passed the Torture Victims Relief Act. Today, I am introducing the Torture Victims Relief Reauthorization Act. America's commitment to and compassion for the survivors of torture remains undiminished. That commitment should be manifested in concrete action, including support for torture treatment programs that can help these victims rebuild the lives that others have sought to destroy.

Nationwide, there are an estimated 400,000 survivors of torture, most of whom came to this country seeking refuge from persecution. Worldwide, it is impossible to count the numbers. Often, torture victims have been targeted by repressive regimes because of their independent political, religious or organized labor activities. Torture sends a message of fear throughout the network of a leader's family and community. As one African religious leader has said, "If they'll do this to me, what will they do to my flock?"

The Torture Victims Relief Act authorizes money for the Department of Health and Human Services to assist torture survivors in the United States; assists victims of torture through treatment centers in countries abroad; and authorizes a contribution to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for the Victims of Torture.

U.S. leadership in this area is truly consequential. I recently met with Brita Sydhoff, the new Executive Director of the International Rehabilitation Center for the Victims of Torture, based in Denmark. Her organization has challenged European governments to match the generosity of our country. Because of U.S. leadership, Spain and Italy have dramatically increased their contribution to the UN Fund for the Victims of Torture. I was also deeply heartened to learn that the Danish center, along with the Chicago-based Kovlar Center, is helping to establish treatment centers in Iraq, so that the many victims of Saddam Hussein's torturous regime can receive help.

The work that torture treatment centers undertake is profoundly challenging. In 2003, Canadian journalist Zahra Kazemi was brutally tortured and killed by Iranian authorities. A few weeks ago, an Iranian doctor who examined her body released new details about the brutality Ms. Kazemi suffered before she died. These revelations have been especially painful for Ezat Mossallanejad, a counselor for the Canadian Center for the Victims of Torture:

two decades ago, he was also tortured in Iran, as punishment for his human rights work. In Canada, as a counselor, he has helped treat many other refugees who were tortured at the same prison where Zahra Kazemi was killed. Last year, his center treated 76 Iranian torture survivors; 26 were children.

Mr. Speaker, we cannot turn our backs on people like this. With medical, psychological and social services, torture survivors have the potential to become contributing members of their communities. I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this bill.

RECOGNIZING EL DÍA DE LOS
NIÑOS

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2005

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise today in recognition of El Día de Los Niños,

also known as Day of the Children. Since 1925, Día de Los Niños has expanded into a global event, celebrated every year on the 30th day of April. This day pays homage to the importance of children in our society and endorses the need for their well-being. A traditional Latin American holiday, Día de Los Niños has been observed nationally since the passage of Senate Resolution 278 on April 30, 1998.

On El Día de Los Niños, all Americans are provided an opportunity to pay tribute to those who will assume the reins of this great country—our nation's youth. Among those being honored, Latino children represent the fastest growing child population in the United States. Around the world and across this nation, community organizations, libraries, schools, and other family-serving institutions will coordinate activities and events that celebrate children in observation of this holiday. One such organization is the Mattie Rhodes Center, located in Missouri's Fifth Congressional District.

For over 110 years, the Mattie Rhodes Center has been serving residents of Kansas City's urban core that have few resources to access even the most basic of services. The Mattie Rhodes Center has a rich history of caring for children and supporting families by providing a comprehensive network of family and youth services. By providing social services, mental health counseling and art experiences in a bilingual, culturally sensitive environment, the Mattie Rhodes Center has assisted many Kansas Citizens in becoming self-reliant, productive members of the community.

As a proud father of four, I happily celebrate El Día de Los Niños and the contributions of the Mattie Rhodes Center. I urge my fellow colleagues to please join me in celebrating young Americans and to use this day to renew our commitment to the future of our children in the Latino and broader communities, so that we can ensure that all children have an equal opportunity to achieve their hopes and dreams.